

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| |) | |
| Christopher M. OSBORNE, <i>et al.</i> |) | |
| |) | |
| Application No.: Divisional of 10/152,773 |) | Prior Group Art Unit: 3671 |
| |) | |
| Filed: April 20, 2004 |) | Examiner: A. Kovacs |
| |) | |
| For: VARIABLE MULCHING SYSTEM FOR |) | Mail Stop Patent Application |
| A LAWNMOWER |) | |

Mail Stop Patent Application
The Commissioner of Patents
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. These documents were cited in the parent application, Application No. 10/152,773. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of these documents are not enclosed. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider these documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

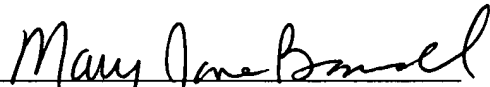
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute “prior art.” If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute “prior art” under

United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should any of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application. **Except** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** -in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

By: 
Mary Jane Boswell
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Dated: April 20, 2004

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MJB/DEC/fdb

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
CITATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

PTO Form 1449

Attorney Docket No.

052833-5014-01

Application No.

Divisional of 10/152,773

Applicant: Christopher M. OSBORNE, *et al.*

Filing Date: April 20, 2004

Prior

Group Art Unit: 3671

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *Examiner Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------|-------------|
| | 5,884,463 | 03/23/1999 | Darzynskis, | | | |
| | 5,826,417 | 10/27/1998 | Evans | | | |
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| | 5,491,964 | 02/20/1996 | Butler | | | |
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| | 5,457,947 | 10/17/1995 | Samejima, <i>et al.</i> | | | |
| | 5,442,902 | 08/22/1995 | Mosley, <i>et al.</i> | | | |
| | 5,435,118 | 07/25/1995 | Cobile | | | |
| | 5,355,666 | 10/18/1994 | McDonner, <i>et al.</i> | | | |
| | 5,267,429 | 12/07/1993 | Kettler, <i>et al.</i> | | | |
| | 5,179,823 | 01/19/1993 | Pace | | | |
| | 5,191,756 | 03/19/1993 | Kuhn | | | |
| | 5,033,260 | 07/23/1991 | Jerry | | | |
| | 4,938,011 | 07/03/1990 | Pernia | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|-----------|--|
| Examiner | Date Considered |
| Examiner: | Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |

DBH/fdb

April 20, 2004

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Group Art Unit: 3671**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| *Examiner Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------|-------|--------------|-------------|
| | 4,312,174 | 01/26/1982 | Vanderhoef | | | |
| | 3,884,020 | 05/20/1975 | Dahl, <i>et al.</i> | | | |
| | 3,134,212 | 05/26/1964 | Gary | | | |
| | 3,118,267 | 01/21/1964 | Shaw | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | <u>Translation</u> YES NO | |
|--------------------|------------|---------|-------|--------------|------------------------------|---|
| WO 94/10827 | 05/26/1994 | PCT | | | | X |
| | | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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Examiner

Date Considered

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April 20, 2004

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